

REMARKS

The amendment to the specification is to correct an obvious clerical error.

In response to the Office Action of December 28, 2004, in which the examiner raised an alleged non-responsive aspect of the amendment filed on July 6, 2004, the term "closed loop" as used in the claims finds support, as stated on page 9 of the amendment, at Fig. 3 of the present application, "...in which patient connector 42 communicates with second connector 70 so that a loop is formed as described and claimed in the application. This may be used in priming and rinse back processes, with significant advantage."

The closed loop that is formed in Fig. 3 with the connection of connectors 42 and 70 can be plainly seen, comprising sections of tubing 72, 58, and 40 in Fig. 3.

Support for the phrase "closed loop" is found in the specification at page 11, second complete paragraph, line 4 of the specification. The same paragraph clearly describes the portions of the "closed loop" illustrated in Fig. 3.

For further support of the phrase "closed loop" see page 5 of the specification, first complete paragraph, line 2.

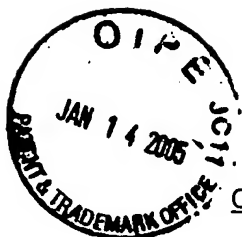
Respectfully submitted,

SEYFARTH SHAW LLP



Garrettson Ellis
Registration No. 22,792
Attorney for Applicant

SEYFARTH SHAW LLP
55 East Monroe Street, Suite 4200
Chicago, Illinois 60603
(312) 269-8567



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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop: Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on Jan. 11, 2005.

Anthony Elan
Registered Attorney for Applicant
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